REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 7, 12, 13 and 14 are amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Office Action rejects claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Burkett (U.S. Patent No. 6,635,089); rejects claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Burkett in view of admitted prior art (APA); and rejects claims 4 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Burkett and APA, and further in view of Chau et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,643,633). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

In particular, neither Burkett nor APA, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests a document processing description synthesizing means for synthesizing a document processing description based only on the instruction embedded in the structured document, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 7, 12, 13 and 14.

The Office Action, at page 4, acknowledges that Burkett does not disclose or suggest synthesizing a document processing description. However, the Office Action asserts that APA discloses this feature. Applicants respectfully disagree.

APA discloses processing document parts retrieved as retrieval results by a program, where the document parts satisfy specific conditions as path pattern expressions that are retrieved from an input original document, to synthesize a new structured document and document parts. Specifically, as shown in Figs. 26 and 27 and its disclosure on pages 5 and 6, APA discloses that an extracting program extracts document parts from an original document according to a procedure described in an extraction (synthesis) script. The extracted documents parts are inputted to a synthesizing program along with a template. The synthesizing program performs the insertion and substitution of the document parts in the template according to a procedure described in a synthesis script to generate a synthesized document.

Nowhere does APA disclose or suggest a document processing description synthesizing means for synthesizing a document processing description based only on the instruction embedded in the structured document. That is, APA requires a synthesis script.

Therefore, neither Burkett nor APA, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests the above-noted features of claim 1, and similarly in independent claims 7, 12, 13 and 14.

Burkett also does not disclose or suggest generating a document processing description containing an instruction string for processing the structured document, and generating information about access to the error notice document, as recited independent claim 12. As stated in previous responses, Burkett instead discloses, at col. 9, lines 10-15, an error handling technique for specifying default values to be used upon occurrence of an error. Nowhere does Burkett disclose or suggest the above-noted feature of claim 12.
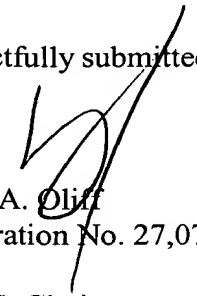
Chau et al. does not make up for the above-noted deficiencies of Burkett. Specifically, Chau et al. discloses, at col. 3, lines 28-30, that XML data is mapped from an application to relational tables and columns using a document access definition based on Xpath model.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 7 and 12-14 define patentable subject matter. claims 2-6 and 8-11 depend from the respective independent claims, and therefore also define patentable subject matter as well as for the other features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment:
    Petition for Extension of Time

Date: May 4, 2005

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